Arrest of custom officials in Delhi

978. SHRI AMAR SINGH : Will the Minister of FINANCE be please to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that CBI recently arrested a few Custom Officials in Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details of the charges against each?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI V. DHANANJAY KUMAR); (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) One Inspector of Central Excise was arrested by CBI on 16.3.2000 while demanding and accepting a bribe of Rs. 2000/-. He was granted bail on 23.3.2000. He has been placed under suspension.

Additional loan to Essar Oil Ltd. by FIs

979. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that financial institutions led by ICICI has recently sanctioned an additional loan of Rs. 350 crore to Essar Oil Ltd.;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that NPA of the Essar Group was not taken into account while sanctioning fresh loans to the company; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI BALASAHEB VIKHE PATIL) (a) ICICI has reported that additional loans are being provided by the financial institutions to partially finance the overrun in the refinery project of Essar Oil Limited for setting up its refinery at Vadinar, Gujarat;

(b) and (c) In accordance with the practices and Usages customary amongst banks and financial institutions and in conformity with the provisions of statutes governing the financial